

**REMARKS**

Applicants have carefully reviewed the Office Action dated October 22, 2003. Applicants have amended Claims 15, 16, 18-20, 22-26, 28-30 and 32-34 to more clearly point out the present inventive concept. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Claims 15, 17-20, 22, 25, 27-30 and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being clearly anticipated by *Letcher*, U. S. Patent 4,786,829.

Claims 16, 21, 23-24, 26, 31, and 33-34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over *Letcher*, as applied to Claims 15, 17-20, 22, 25, 27-30 and 32.

Independent claims 15 and 25 recite "a sequence of input combinations," and a selected opcode "associated with a function wherein the associated function operates on said sequence of input combinations to generate an output bit stream."

*Letcher* does not disclose a selected opcode associated with a function. *Letcher* does not disclose a sequence of input combinations operated on by a function associated with an opcode to generate an output bit stream.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

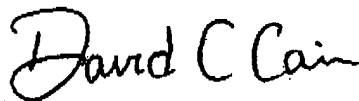
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Applicants have now made an earnest attempt in order to place this case in condition for allowance. For the reasons stated above, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of the claims as amended. Please charge any additional fees or deficiencies in fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-0780/OGPT-24,727 of HOWISON & ARNOTT, L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,  
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